



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## MAYOR JERRY SANDERS PRESS RELEASE

### **MAYOR SELECTS JIM BARRETT AS DIRECTOR FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENTS**

#### **APPOINTMENT WILL HELP CITY TO CONTINUE REFORMS AND FIND ADDITIONAL WAYS TO CUT COSTS AND IMPROVE EFFICIENCY IN BOTH DEPARTMENTS**

Mayor Jerry Sanders today announced that he has selected Jim Barrett as the Director for the City's Water and Wastewater Departments. Barrett, currently the Director of the Water Department, will supervise both departments as the City continues to implement reforms and improve the efficiency of both operations.

Barrett will report directly to the City's Chief Operating Officer, Jay Goldstone, and has been tasked by the Mayor with analyzing how to better coordinate the administrative and operational functions of both departments.

Barrett's new assignment will leave the General Services, Environmental Services and Engineering and Capital Projects departments under the supervision of the City's Deputy Chief Operation Officer (DCOO) for Public Works. David Jarrell, who has been serving as the interim DCOO for Public Works, has been appointed by the Mayor to fill that position permanently.

Barrett will manage water and wastewater departments in conjunction with the Assistant Directors already in place in those areas. Alex Ruiz will continue his position as Assistant Director of the Water Department and Robert Ferrier will continue in his place as Assistant Director of the Metropolitan Wastewater Department.

The Mayor's decision to promote Barrett was influenced by Dr. Timothy Bertch's announcement earlier this month that he will be leaving the City for private employment. Bertch, currently the Director of the City's Metropolitan Wastewater Department will remain with the City through December 28.

Barrett will be working closely with the Independent Rates Oversight Committee (IROC) established earlier this year as part of the Mayor's safeguard plan for ratepayers. The IROC will continue to inform the Mayor and City Council about opportunities for cost savings coming from the water and wastewater operations. The Committee will also continue to make

recommendations regarding potential deposits to the Dedicated Reserve from Efficiency and Savings account and about both performance and financial audits of both departments.

The City will continue to implement reforms and cost savings measures in both departments building on those already established under the City's Bid-to-Goal effort. The Mayor and Chief Operating Officer Goldstone will continue to inform the City Council about any recommendations for permanent improvements to the management structure and operational practices of the water and wastewater systems.

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